

# Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Unveils New Meth Treatment Unit

## Media Contact

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## *Quotes from the Unveiling*

“The answer lies in your hands; it doesn’t matter what I want or what the public wants. It’s up to you to want to make a positive change and we are here to support you in every way.”

Commissioner Donahue speaking to the Offenders.

"I am excited by the energy and delivery of innovative programs... We couldn't have done it without Commissioner Donahue's leadership and drive."

Craig Hanks, Superintendent of the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility.



**Photo: Courtesy of Vincennes Sun-Commercial, Kevin J. Kilmer**

(left to right) Sheriff Steve Luce and Commissioner J. David Donahue at the New Meth Unit Open House.

Indianapolis, IN – June 10, 2005 -- The Department of Correction unveiled a second meth treatment unit

at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility yesterday to attack the meth problem in Indiana. Forty-seven offenders checked into the unit at the facility in Carlisle, Indiana, an area where the prevalence of meth is daunting. Knox county sheriff officials were in attendance to show support of the much-awaited treatment center.

Commissioner J. David Donahue addressed the offenders with the same commitment and support he showed 60 days ago at the opening of the Miami Correctional Facility – the first treatment units of its kind nationwide.

"I am excited by the energy and delivery of innovative programs," said Craig Hanks, Superintendent of the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. "We couldn't have done it without Commissioner Donahue's leadership and drive."

The program named Clean Lifestyle is Freedom Forever, or CLIFF -- will run 15 hours a day, seven days a week. It will be overseen by professionally trained staff. CLIFF is managed in a self-contained wing of the prison that can hold up to 200 inmates of all classifications. By completing the 9-to-12 month voluntary treatment program, offenders are eligible to six-month time cuts. It's a win-win situation.

Commissioner Donahue emphasized that methamphetamine addiction is so powerful and without treatment in prison, most addicts will return to abusing the drug once they re-entered their communities. Therefore, programming and system of delivery is critical for successful re-entry.

"The answer lies in your hands; it doesn't matter what I want or what the public wants," said Donahue to the offenders. "It's up to you to want to make a positive change and we are here to support you in every way."

The Department plans to add seven more units across the state at no cost to the taxpayers.

### **About The Department of Correction**

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 23,000 adult offenders and more than 1,000 juveniles, in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>.



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